

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An elevator system comprising:
a hoistway;
an elevator car that is moveable vertically within the hoistway;
a plurality of landings opening into said hoistway;
a pit located below a lowermost landing ; and
at least one sensor in the hoistway at a location corresponding to a predetermined parking position of the elevator car above the lowermost landing;
an engineer interface located at or near the lowermost landing, the engineer interface generating a pit access control signal ~~for moving the elevator car to a predetermined parking position above the lowermost landing responsive to the pit access control signal thereby allowing access to said pit; and~~
an elevator controller that automatically responds to the pit access control signal by automatically moving the elevator car to the predetermined parking position, the sensor providing a signal to the controller when the car reaches the predetermined parking position, the controller automatically stopping the car in the predetermined parking position responsive to the sensor signal.
2. (Previously Presented) An elevator system as claimed in claim 1 comprising locking means for locking the car to a guide rail.
3. (Previously Presented) An elevator system as claimed in claim 2 wherein said locking means are accessible from beneath the car.
4. (Previously Presented) An elevator system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said engineer interface comprises a key switch.

5. (Previously Presented) An elevator system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said engineer interface is located adjacent an elevator call button at the lowermost landing.

6. (Previously Presented) An elevator system as claimed in claim 1 comprising logical means for preventing movement of said car when in said parking position.

7-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) An elevator system as claimed in claim 1, comprising a manually moveable lock member positioned on an underside of the elevator car and a locking plate at the predetermined parking position, the manually moveable lock member engaging the locking plate responsive to manual movement into a deployed position where the manually moveable locking member and the locking plate prevent movement of the elevator car out of the predetermined parking position.

10. (Previously Presented) An elevator system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pit access control signal causes automatic movement of the elevator car in an upward direction from a position at the lowermost landing to the predetermined parking position.

11. (Cancelled)